

8 RICK SNOW: Rick Snow, and [I'm opposed to 1
9 this project of moving this material through the
10 state of Nevada. The man from Nye County spoke to us
11 about some of the economic benefits the railroad
12 would bring by coming into the community. I'd like
13 to say I hope you don't get what you're looking for
14 there, because some of the benefits that you are
15 about to receive come with a lot of negativity.]

16 And the reverend alluded to us that there
17 are a lot of people with a lot of imaginary ideas
18 that we can make this thing happen if we all put our
19 minds to it. I think most of the imagination is
20 coming from the government in telling us things they
21 want us to believe and they expect us to believe it.

22 Now, I know there are a few things that I
23 know for sure, and then there's a lot of things that
24 I know that I don't know and then there's so much
25 that I don't know that I don't know. And so I'm
1 going to get down to the smallest part and tell you
2 when we end up here talking about this, [the first 2
3 thing they're going to do is go through and say,
4 Anybody that's talking about anything that doesn't
5 pertain to what they set up as the agenda is going to
6 be discarded and not listened to.] So what we need to
7 do is focus on what they're asking, and that's about
8 the transportation.

9 In about 1992 or 1993 they were moving from
10 Sacramento some nuclear waste in a cask to Idaho. I

11 was present when they were moving that on the
12 railroad. They did it at night. They did it
13 covertly. And we asked why did they have to do that.
14 If they were so sure of their science, why aren't
15 they doing it out in the open where everybody could
16 watch and see?

17 [In my experience I know a few things about 3
18 what the railroad does, because I've experienced some
19 of these things. At the present time the railroad
20 has changed their maintenance agreements with the
21 Surface Transportation Board. It used to be they
22 changed 40 percent of the ties every seven years,
23 which amounts to 120 percent of the ties every 21
24 years. Now they're taking a 30-year time period to
25 do the same thing.

This summer, if we went out into eastern

2 Nevada where all this stuff is going to be
3 transported over the rail system, they have slow
4 orders, which means that trains can't go more than 25
5 miles an hour because it's not safe to do so for more
6 than 30 miles.

7 If you have train tracks that are in that
8 poor of condition with these cars -- now, if anybody
9 understands about casks, what they look like, they
10 are a short car with a large laden amount of weight.
11 The reason they make them short is so that the car
12 can physically hold up to the rigors of it. They
13 take them over the same track as a long car.

14 A long car, to go around the curve, has to

15 have more spread of the track in order to negotiate
16 the curve. The short cars go on that same track and
17 they have a problem because there is not sufficient
18 support by the track to the car. If this happens in
19 Nevada, you're certainly going to have a catastrophe
20 by a derailment.

21 The other thing is when talking with the
22 Surface Transportation Board when they were talking
23 about bringing this stuff from Sacramento to Idaho,
24 one of the things I brought up was the fact that they
25 do not comply with the rules as they are already.

1 We have laws. It's called FRA interchange
2 standards, which requires certain things to be done
3 on cars for the braking system. That's being
4 violated every day. I can stand right down here at
5 the Sparks yard, and ten percent of the cars are less
6 than compliant with the rules that are already in
7 place.

8 If no one is making them follow through on
9 the standards that are there, any new standards are
10 subject to the same lack of enforcement. We have
11 lack of enforcement. It's only a matter of time
12 before this is going to be a problem.]

13 [Now you say, we haven't had a derailment in
14 this area for a long time. In 1979 there was a
15 derailment in Gerlach. I think if you ask anybody in
16 the room, there's going to be about two percent that
17 remember that derailment. A year later they had a

18 derailment in Roseville. It shut down the entire
19 yard. In 1989 when they built the Roseville yard,
20 they found bombs that were not exploded that they did
21 not find the first time.

22 This is some of the things that go on in a
23 normal operation of a railroad. You can only imagine
24 what happens when they start bringing these casks in
25 and they have a catastrophe there. This is something
1 that's going to be something we've never dealt with
2 before, and if it happens in Sacramento or in Reno,
3 the place will be non-inhabitable.

4 And what it comes down to is transporting
5 any material is so much more inherently dangerous
6 than having it stored on site. Store on site, it
7 doesn't move. You'll only have a few items that are
8 going to be a problem. When you start moving it, you
9 open yourself up to a whole array of different items.]

10 [I wish these people that are in the back of
11 the room, they sit there and they go, I don't like
12 this person up there suggesting we're lying. I heard
13 that three times tonight when somebody called their
14 credibility into account. If I hadn't seen it myself
15 in 1992 when they were moving that cask from
16 Sacramento to Idaho, I would have said, You people
17 are correct. But I witnessed it. I seen what
18 happened.

19 And, I'm sorry, but you people are not being
20 honest with us. You can only serve one master. And
21 when you take your job, it's not to get what your

22 boss wants you to get, it's to protect the country,
23 but you take an oath that says you're going to do the
24 right thing.

25 I think you people need to think a little
1 bit more about what you're doing and a little less
2 about the security of your job. And I'm sorry I had
3 to say that, but that's exactly what you're doing
4 when you say, I don't like people who feel this way.
5 Most of it is experience. We've had people come out
6 here tell us one thing and within a short time it's
7 just totally changed.] That's all I have to say
8 tonight and I wish us luck.